



Innovative Pedestrian Treatments

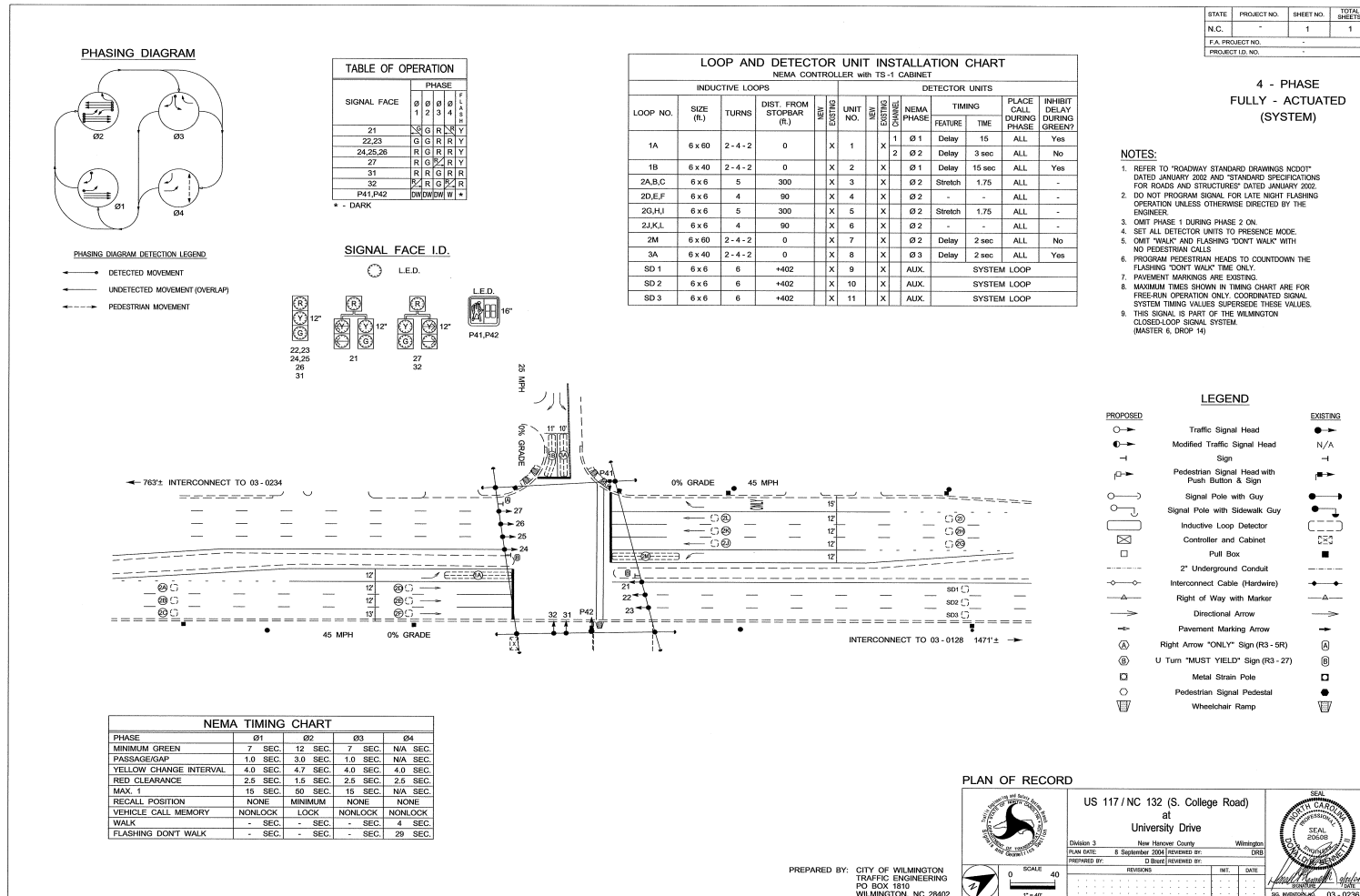
T Intersection with moderate
pedestrian volumes

Don Bennett, PE
Wilmington City Traffic Engineer

Statement of issues

- T intersection in the middle of 6 lane divided arterial
- College Student crossing point from apartments to campus
- Jaywalking
- Disruption of progressive band
- Pedestrians sequential to side street phase

Existing Plan



Problem

- Single ring controller running intersection with multiple confusing overlaps
- Long pedestrian intervals interfere with progression leading to driver frustration, dramatically affects downstream over capacity signal
- No funds to construct pedestrian refuge, or reconfigure intersection
- No flexibility in serving pedestrians concurrent with vehicles
- Motorist complaints that controller is hung up in side street movement

Field Observations

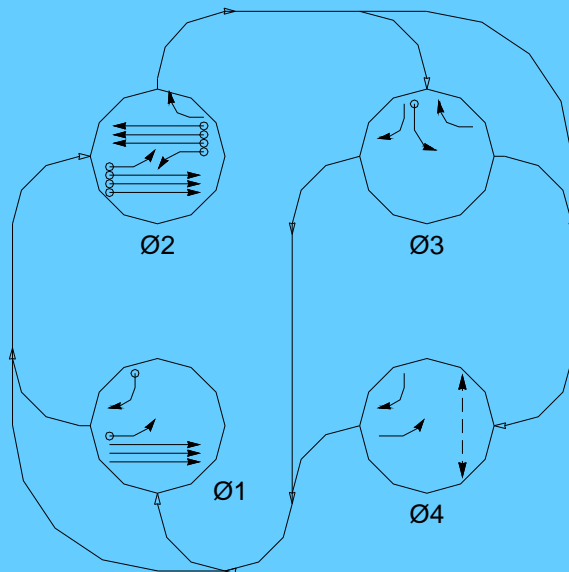
- Numerous pedestrians utilize gaps created by platooning to make two-stage crossing during arterial green.
- Others start crossing with side street green and have cleared the intersection before onset of pedestrian phase
- Very few wait for WALK signal, resulting in motorist complaint of pedestrian movement running without pedestrians present.
- Engineer "It's running the pedestrian movement" Caller "They're halfway to class already, I don't understand why I'm stopped"

Concerns

- It's been this way for a long time, will they accept the change?
- Why were the pedestrians split out in the first place?
- Is this signal even warranted without the pedestrians?
- Will motorists understand the concurrent pedestrians and yield?

Existing and proposed phasing

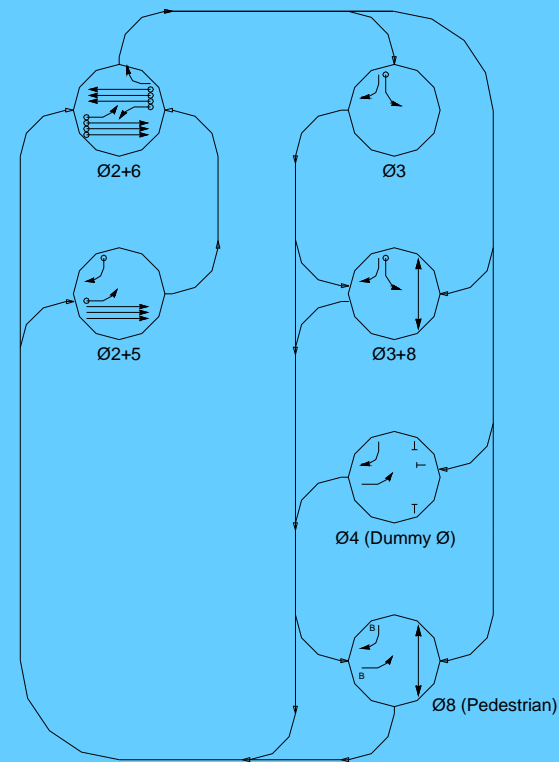
PHASING DIAGRAM



PHASING DIAGRAM DETECTION LEGEND

- ← ○ DETECTED MOVEMENT
- ← UNDETECTED MOVEMENT (OVERLAP)
- ← - - - - - PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT

PHASING DIAGRAM



PHASING DIAGRAM DETECTION LEGEND

- ← ○ DETECTED MOVEMENT
- ← UNDETECTED MOVEMENT (OVERLAP)
- ← - - - - - PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT

Benefits of proposed phasing

- Controller can service both the side street pedestrians concurrently with the side street vehicular phase
- Main street left turn can be initiated at the end of the side street vehicular demand and time concurrently with remainder of long pedestrian timing
- If sufficient time remains on peds, main street left turns can be serviced returning to two way main street green earlier
- Concurrent pedestrian movement meets pedestrian expectations

More benefits

- Cabinet gets replaced, this one is particularly old
- Phasing retains general concept with added flexibility
- Can result in better progression since there is an increased probability of “early return to green.
- Better understanding by motorists on main street

Questions?

